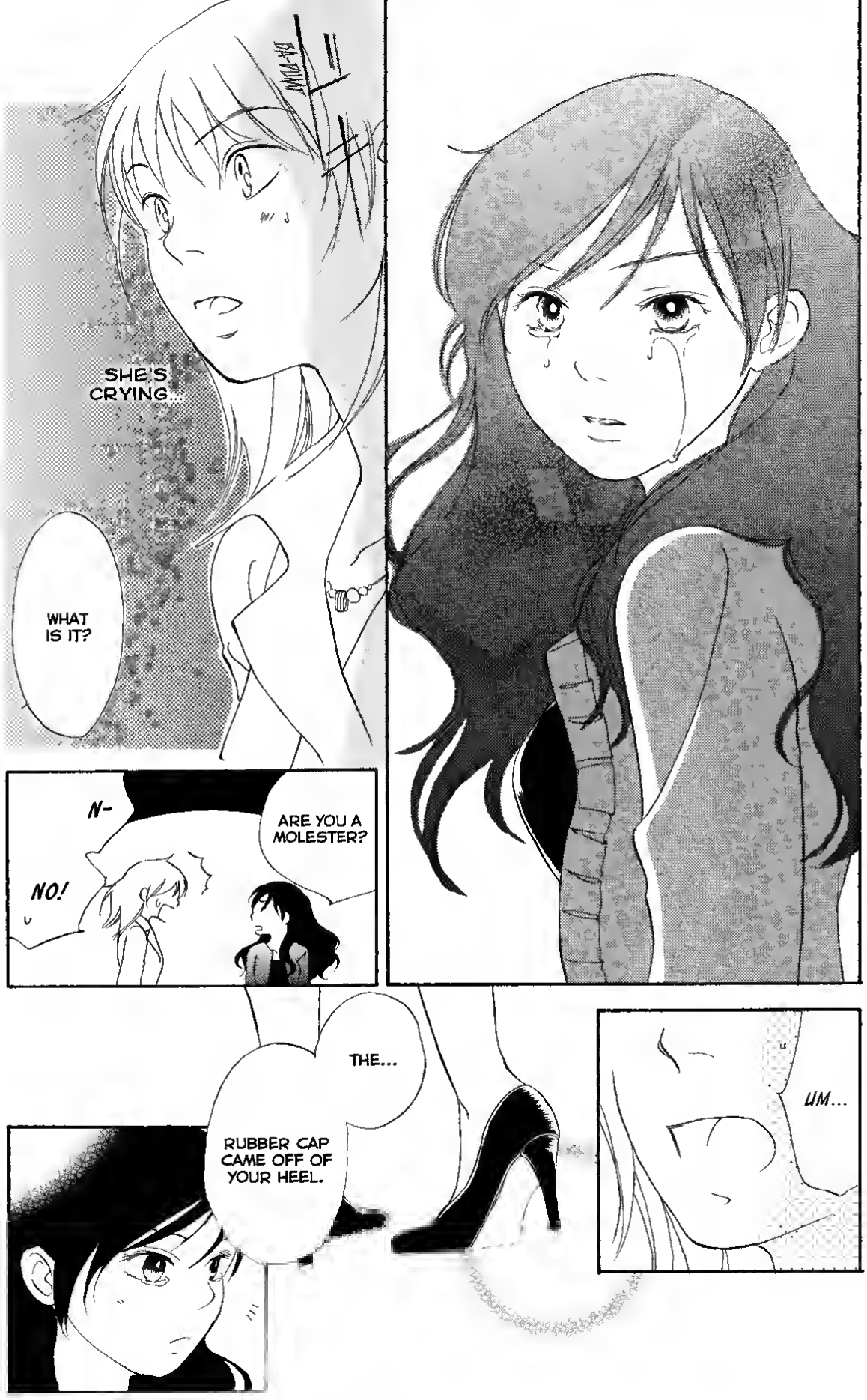
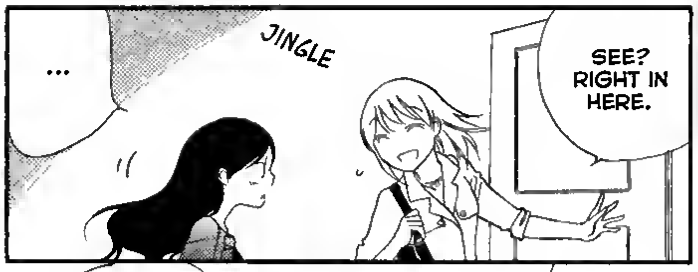
omiashi o koko e

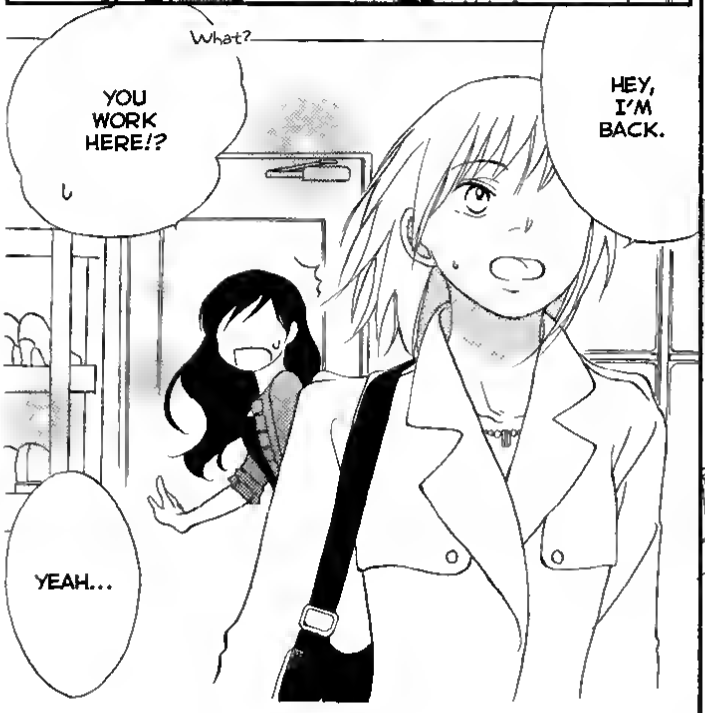
Place Your Legs Here

Amane Osawa 大沢あまね

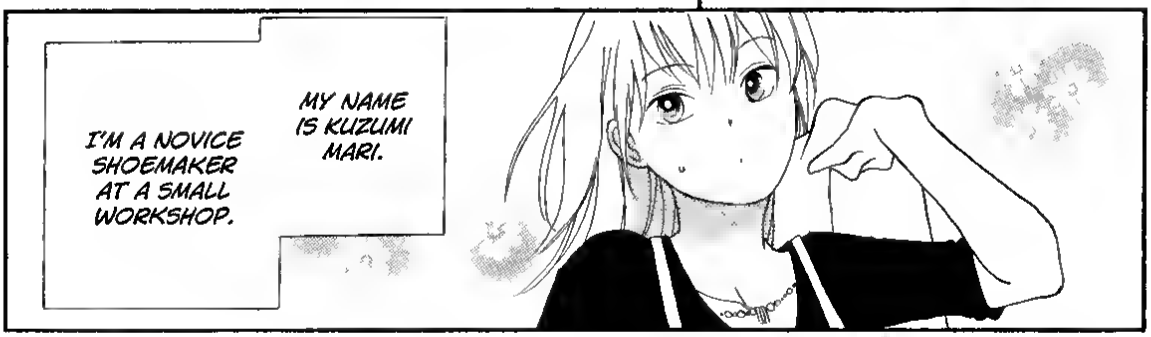
WHEN I SAW SUCH A GORGEOUS PAIR OF LEGS WALKING IN FRONT OF ME...
tap
WITHOUT THINKING, I MUMBLED ALOUD...
SO BEAUTIFUL...
HALT
OOGH...
WHIRL
SHOOT... SHE HEARD THAT!?


SHE'S CRYING...
WHAT IS IT?
N-
NO!
ARE YOU A MOLESTER?
THE...
RUBBER CAP CAME OFF OF YOUR HEEL.
UM...


...
JINGLE
SEE? RIGHT IN HERE.


What?
YOU WORK HERE!?
HEY, I'M BACK.
YEAH...

IF YOU LEAVE IT LIKE THAT, IT'LL CAUSE YOU PAIN...
THERE'S A REPAIR SHOP RIGHT OVER THERE, SO YOU'D BETTER GET IT FIXED.


I'M A NOVICE SHOEMAKER AT A SMALL WORKSHOP.
MY NAME IS KUZUMI MARI.

whisper
THANK GOOD-NESS.
I LIKE THESE SHOES.

THAT SHOULD FIX IT RIGHT UP.

AHH,
OF COURSE,
I REMEMBER ONCE MY BRAND-NEW CALFSKIN SHOES GOT RAINED ON.
I CRIED MY EYES OUT OVER THAT ONE.
HA HA HA
...
THERE WAS ACTUALLY SOME OTHER REASON FOR THOSE TEARS, BUT...
SO THAT'S WHY YOU WERE CRYING?
IT'S KINDER TO PRETEND I DON'T KNOW THAT.
I WAS SAD.
YEAH...
PLACE
BA-DUMP

WHAT BEAUTIFUL LEGS...
WHAT ARE YOU DESIGNING NOW?
IS THAT FOR THE NEXT EXHIBITION?
OH!
UH, NO NO, THIS IS NOTHING!
I CAN'T GET HER LEGS OUT OF MY MIND.
THEY WERE SO GOOD...
SUCH VOLUPTUOUS CALVES ON TOP OF THOSE SLENDER ANKLES...
CHATTER

THE STREETS ARE FLOODED WITH ALL DIFFERENT SORTS OF LEGS.
BUT IF YOU'RE A SHOEMAKER, IT'S SURELY A WISH YOU'VE HAD ONCE IN YOUR LIFE...
HEY,
TO PUT THE PERFECT PAIR OF SHOES ON THE PERFECT PAIR OF LEGS.
AREN'T YOU THAT SHOEMAKER FROM BEFORE?
KISHIMOTO WAKANA
SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL-3RD YEAR

I...
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS...
YOU THOUGHT I WAS A GROWN-UP?
PEOPLE USUALLY TAKE ME FOR AROUND 20.
YOU'RE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!?
OOH, IT IS YOU!
WOW, YOU REALLY SELL ALL DIFFERENT TYPES...
I WAS GETTING TURNED ON BY A MIDDLE SCHOOLER'S LEGS...?
AND WHY DID SHE FOLLOW ME IN HERE?
HOW EMBARRASSING...
HEY...
THESE ARE THE SHOES I WAS DREAMING OF PUTTING ON HER.
YOU EVEN DESIGN SHOES?
rip

THE OTHER DAY YOU CALLED ME "SO BEAUTIFUL", DIDN'T YOU?
IS IT REALLY OKAY TO SAY THAT KIND OF THING TO A MIDDLE-SCHOOLER?
NOW, LISTEN HERE...
JUST TO KILL SOME TIME, YOU WANNA GO OUT?
HUH!?
THAT DAY I WAS JUST COMING BACK FROM GETTING DUMPED.
BY MY GIRL-FRIEND, 10 YEARS OLDER THAN ME.

WHEN I WENT TO ALL THAT TROUBLE TO LOOK MATURE...
I EVEN BORROWED MY OLDER SISTER'S SHOES.
THEY WEREN'T EVEN HER OWN SHOES...
SHE DIDN'T TAKE ME SERI-OUSLY AT ALL. "YOU'RE JUST A KID," SHE SAID.
BA-DUM?
AH...
HEY, THEN, LET'S GO OUT!
EH...
BUT, THE DATE'S NOT FOR ANOTHER HALF A YEAR.

LET ME MAKE A PAIR OF SHOES FOR YOU.
I'LL GIVE THEM TO YOU IN SIX MONTHS.

I ATE BEFORE I CAME. HEY, IS IT ALL RIGHT IF I USE THE WORKSHOP HERE?
Her parents home is also a shoemaking shop
ARE YOU EATING, MARI?
FW-TMP
I'M HOME.
NOW THEN ...
WHICH DESIGN SHOULD I GO WITH...
HUH!?

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I THINK YOU MIS-UNDER-STOOD, BUT...
WHEN I SAID "SO BEAUTIFUL", I WAS TALKING ABOUT YOUR LEGS.
AND I THOUGHT HOW MUCH I'D LIKE TO PUT A PAIR OF MY OWN SHOES ON SUCH A LOVELY SHAPE.
THAT'S WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH MY HEAD.
I WAS SPEAK-ING...
STRICTLY FROM A PROFESSIONAL POINT OF VIEW.
HMMPH...
WAS THAT IT?
WELL, FINE. IT SOUNDS LIKE FUN.

MAKE THEM FOR ME.
THAT'S THE KIND OF SHOES I'D LIKE TO WEAR.
THE SORT OF SHOES I'D NEVER GET TURNED DOWN IN WHEN I GO TO CONFESS...
TAKING MEASUREMENTS
SHE REALLY IS A KID...

THAT'S WHAT CHILDREN DO.
TRYING TO ACT OLDER.
WEARING HER SISTER'S PUMPS TO SEEM MORE MATURE.
I MEAN, I KNOW SHE WAS PRETTY LOW FROM THE BREAK-UP, BUT SHE DID SAY SHE'D GO OUT WITH *ME*...
AND ALSO,
"WHEN I GO TO CONFESS"? WHAT'S WITH THAT PREMISE?
...

WHAT ON EARTH AM I DOING, TAKING HER SERIOUSLY...
NO NO NO. THIS IS...
JUST ABOUT ME PUTTING A PAIR OF SHOES ON MY IDEAL LEGS.
WHAT KIND OF SHOE WOULD BE BEST?
HIGH HEELS CERTAINLY GIVE A PRETTY APPEARANCE, BUT...
NOW THAT I KNOW SHE'S A TEENAGER, THEY'RE NOT QUITE FITTING.
FOR NOW...

"IT DOESN'T MATTER WHERE YOU'RE GOING, THE IMPORTANT THING'S THAT YOU'RE ALONE AND CLOSE TO EACH OTHER, RIGHT?"

...

"I'M INSIDE MY CAR RIGHT NOW."

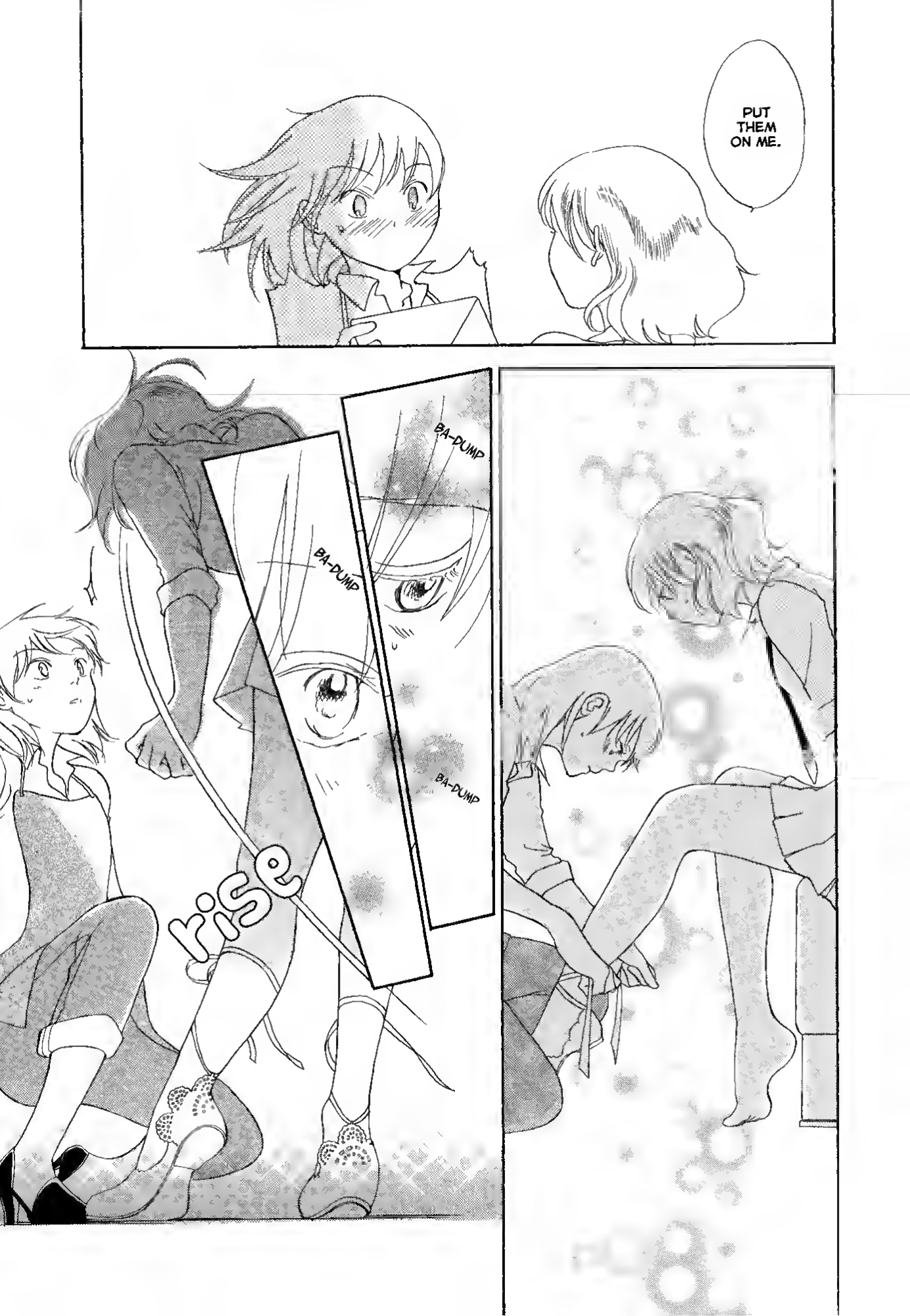
OF COURSE, THERE'D BE NO POINT IN SENDING THAT. IT'S JUST A COINCIDENCE.

AND YET...

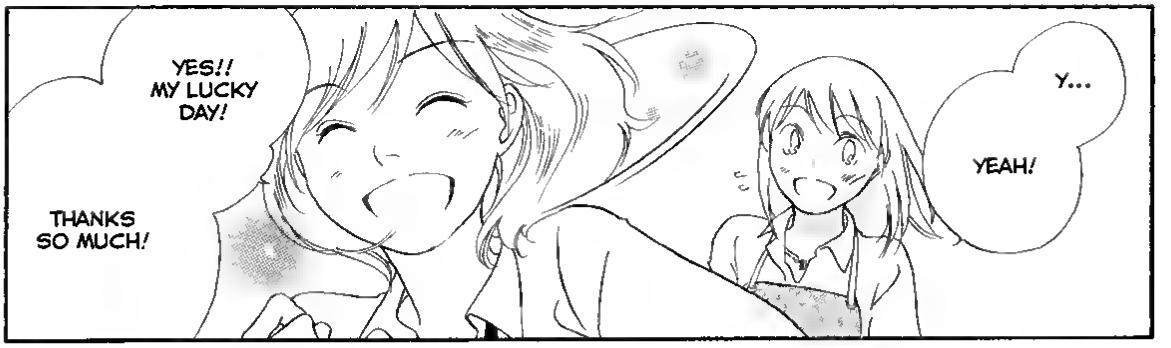
JUST BECAUSE OF THAT, I ALMOST BEGIN TO FEEL LIKE SHE'S SITTING HERE NEXT TO ME.

I TRY TO PICTURE IT.
WHEN I IMAGINE IT, THE ONE STANDING NEXT TO HER... IS ALWAYS ME.
SHE'S ON A DATE, WEARING MY SHOES.
INSIDE A CAR,
AT AN AMUSE-MENT PARK,
AT NIGHT-TIME.
SIX MONTHS LATER
JINGLE

HEY, I'M HERE TO PICK UP THE THING YOU PROMISED.
HIGH-SCHOOLER, NOW.
WHAT'S WITH THE HAIR, MIDDLE-SCHOOLER?
SHE'S TOTALLY DIFFERENT AGAIN!!
IT'S ASH BLONDE. NICE, RIGHT?
...
SO? ARE THEY DONE?


PUT THEM ON ME.
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
rise

NO NEED FOR HEELS TO TRY TO LOOK MATURE.
FLATS TIED UP WITH A RAINBOW-COLORED RIBBON.
SHE'S JUST A GIRL LOOKING FORWARD TO HER BRIGHT AND COLORFUL FUTURE.
YOU'LL REALLY LET ME HAVE THESE?
I DID IT!
SHE LIKES THEM!
SHE SMILED!


YES!! MY LUCKY DAY!
THANKS SO MUCH!
Y...
YEAH!

FW-TMP
JINGLE
JINGLE

YEESH.
GOOD GRIEF.

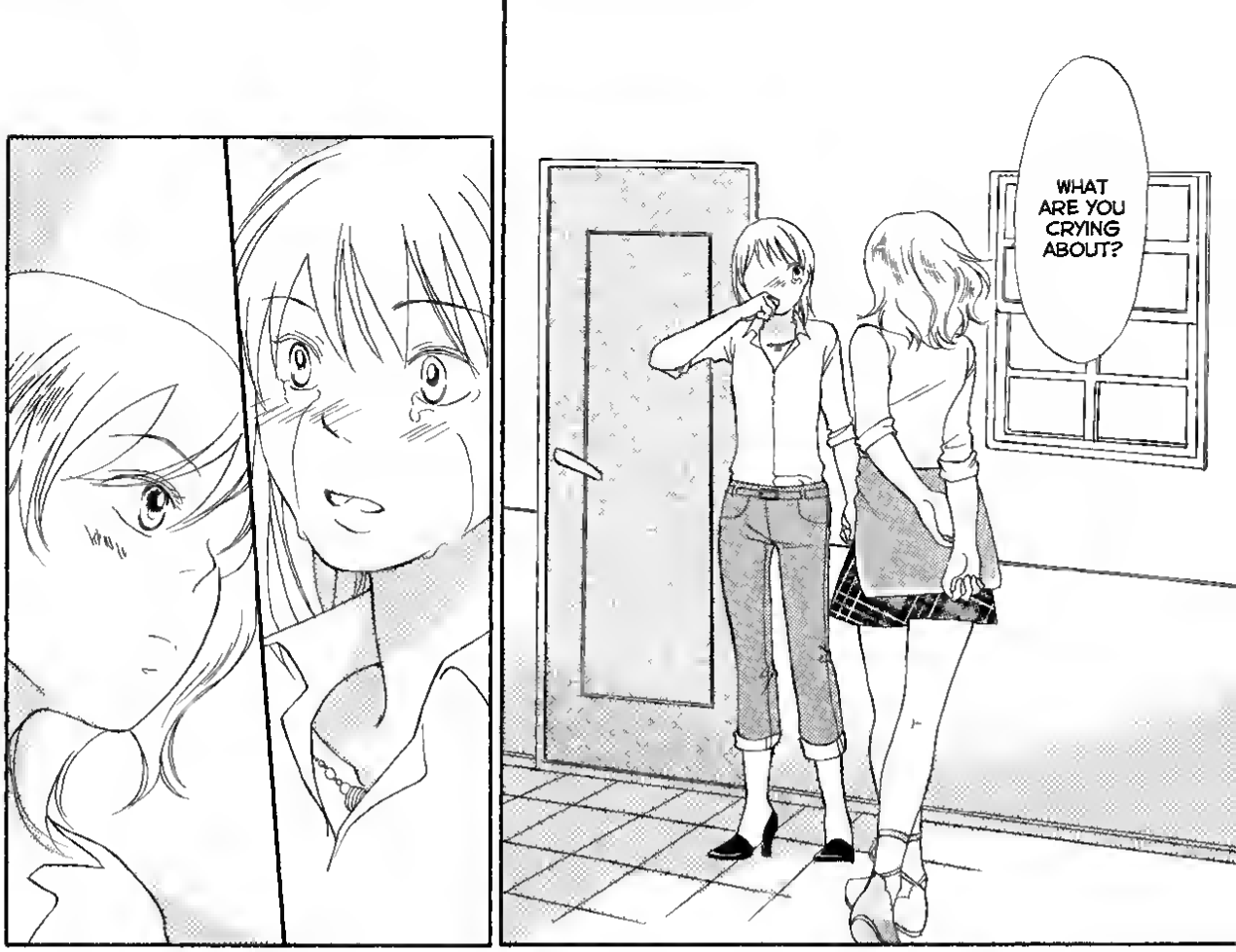
HEY, I'M GOING ON BREAK.
SURE.

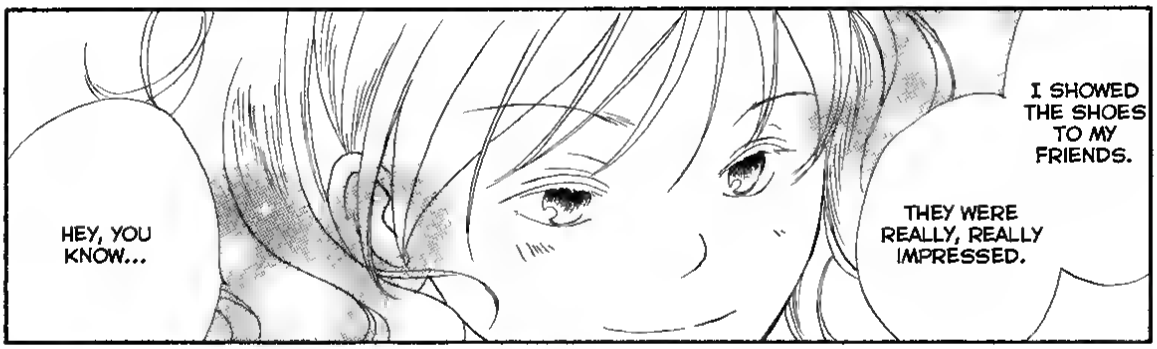
WELL, I'M GLAD SHE LIKED THEM.
THIS WAY,
I CAN BE SATISFIED TOO...
NGH...
YOU IDIOT!
IDIOT IDIOT IDIOT!!

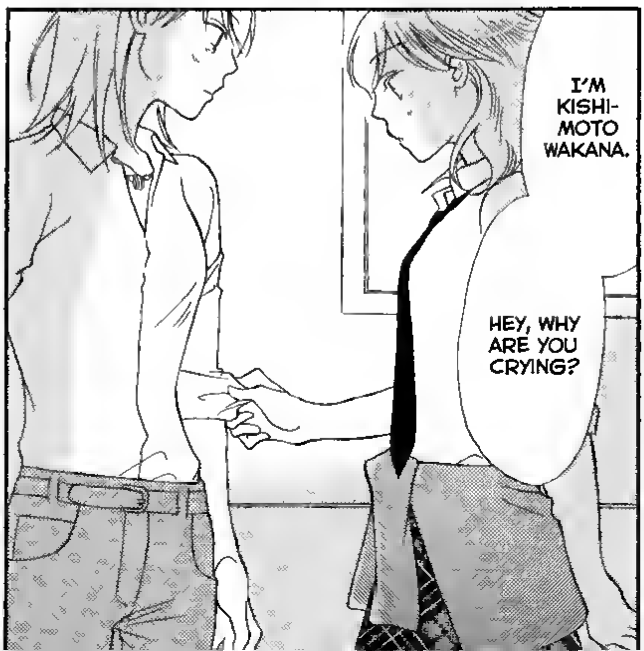
THE TRUTH WAS, I KNEW...

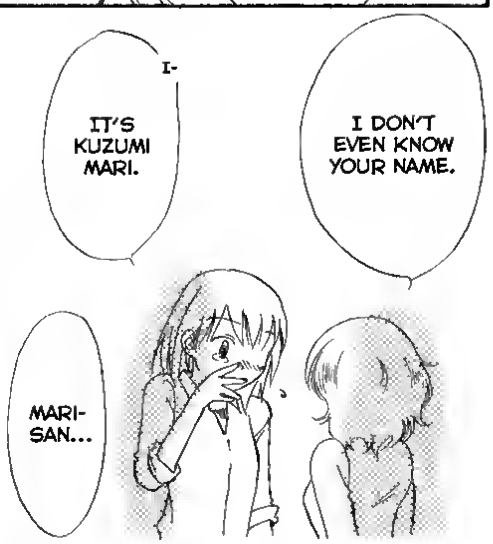
HOW I REALLY FELT ABOUT HER.

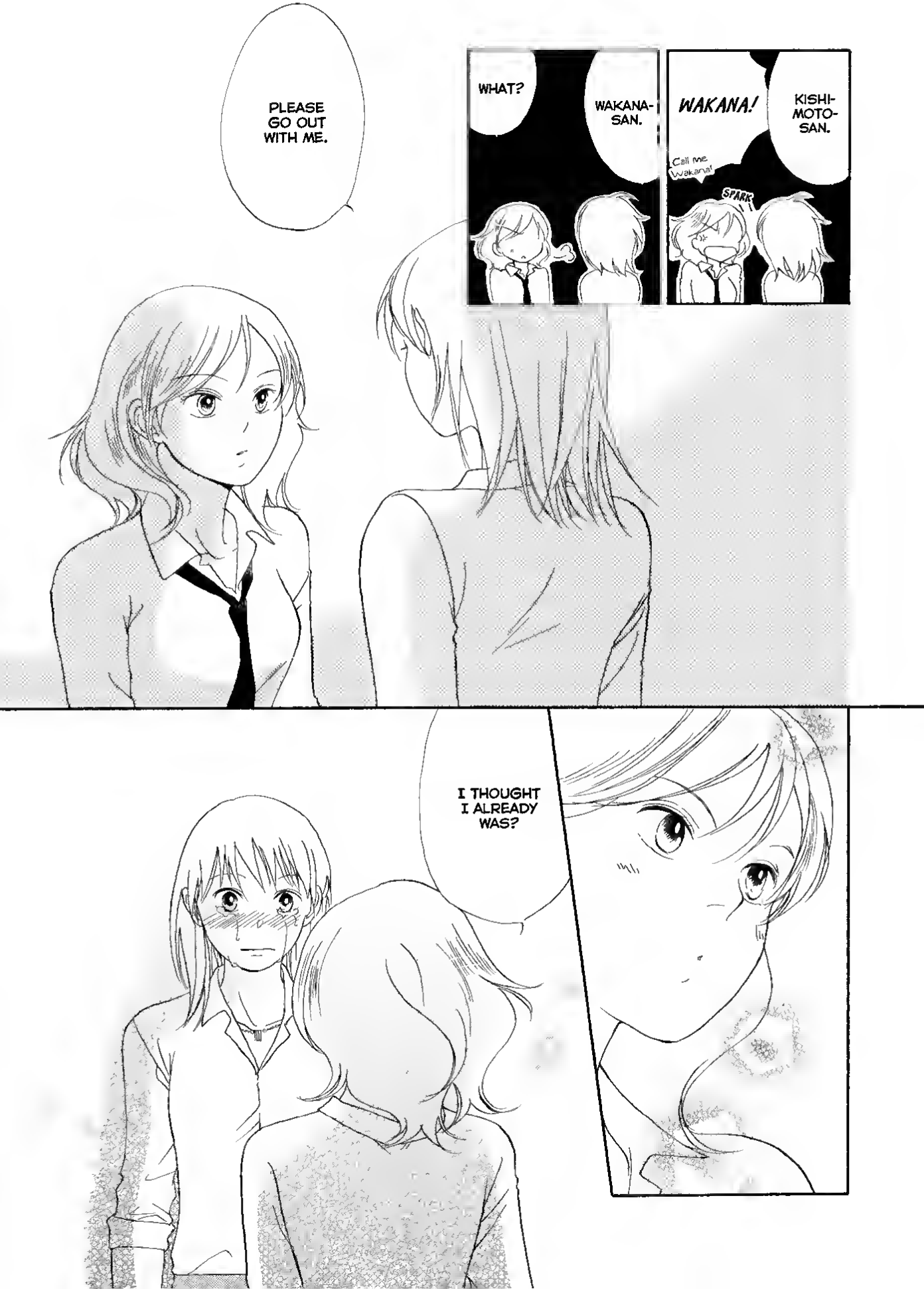
HEY,


WHAT ARE YOU CRYING ABOUT?


HEY, YOU KNOW...
I SHOWED THE SHOES TO MY FRIENDS.
THEY WERE REALLY, REALLY IMPRESSED.


I'M KISHI-MOTO WAKANA.
HEY, WHY ARE YOU CRYING?


I-
IT'S KUZUMI MARI.
I DON'T EVEN KNOW YOUR NAME.
MARI-SAN...


PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME.
WHAT?
WAKANA-SAN.
WAKANA!
Call me Wakana!
KISHI-MOTO-SAN.
SPARK
I THOUGHT I ALREADY WAS?

I MADE HER A PAIR OF FLATS LIKE RAINBOW-COLORED WINGS TO TAKE HER WHEREVER SHE WISHED.
AND OF ALL PLACES...
HEY,
WHEN SHOULD WE GO ON OUR NEXT DATE?
THOSE FEET, AND THOSE LEGS, HAVE ENDED UP RIGHT NEXT TO MINE.

End

Place Your Legs Here by Ohsawa Amane